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In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1-7. (canceled)
- 8. (currently amended) Padded fishing shorts comprising:

To: Examiner Alissa L Hoéy

a trunk portion and legs, said trunk portion having an open top with means for securement about the waist of a wearer, a rear area for covering the buttocks of the wearer, a frontal crotch area, and opposite sides forming hip areas for covering the hips of a wearer, said trunk portion and said trunk portion and said legs having exterior surfaces;

a plurality of hook and loop material strips attached to said exterior surface of said frontal crotch

a padding attached to said exterior surface of said frontal crotch area by means of said hook and loop material strips,

said padding is covering a wearers crotch area and lower abdomen such that the wearer can rest the butt of a fishing pole on their abdomen in the customary position used for fighting fish, and said padding is removable from said shorts for convenience.

9-18. (canceled)